

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled) ~~A process for preparing fiber reinforced resin for use in molding machines comprising:~~

~~threading at least one continuous fiber strand through a chamber;~~

~~intermittently introducing into the chamber thermoplastic resin in a molten state, and thereby coating the fiber strand with thermoplastic resin; and~~

~~pushing the resin coated continuous fiber strand in a heated state into a barrel housing a rotatable screw simultaneously with the introduction of thermoplastic resin into the chamber and independently of the action of the screw.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The process of claim [[1]]13, wherein[:]

the rotatable screw is [[the]] a feed screw of an injection-molding machine.

3. (Currently amended) The process of claim [[1]]13, for use in ~~wherein the molding machine is an inject~~ a compression molding machine.

4. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 2, wherein[:]

the fibers are cut by the feed screw inside of said the barrel.

5. (Currently Amended) The process of claim [[1]]13, wherein[:]

said the barrel rotatable and screw ~~comprise~~ include a compounding extruder in which the fiber and resin are thoroughly mixed into a molten mass.

6. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 5, ~~[[and]]~~ further including~~[[:]]~~

~~forming~~ shaping the ~~extrudate~~ molten mass from the compounding extruder into a compressible shape and thereafter conveying the shaped mass to a molding machine adjacent to the compounding extruder.

7. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 6 wherein ~~said~~ the molding machine is a compression-molding machine.

8. (Original) The process of claim 6 wherein said molding machine is a transfer-molding machine.

9. (Currently Amended) The process of claim ~~[[1]]~~13, wherein the rotatable screw is the feed screw of a profile-extruding machine.

10. (Cancelled) ~~The process of claim 1 wherein:~~

~~the fiber strand is cut into predetermined lengths after being coated and prior to being directed into a barrel housing a rotatable screw.~~

11. (Cancelled) ~~A process for preparing fiber-reinforced resin for use in molding machines comprising:~~

~~passing a continuous fiber strand through a chamber;~~

~~intermittently introducing into the chamber a thermoplastic resin in a molten state, and thereby coating the continuous fiber strand with thermoplastic resin; and~~

~~pushing the resin coated fiber strand in a heated state into a fluidic conveying mechanism in conjunction with the introduction of thermoplastic resin into the chamber and independently of the action of the fluidic conveying mechanism.~~

12. (Cancelled) ~~The process of claim 11 wherein the fiber strand is cut into predetermined lengths after being coated and prior to being directed into the fluidic conveying mechanism.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing fiber-reinforced resin for use in molding machines comprising:

threading at least one fiber strand through a chamber; and

intermittently introducing into the chamber thermoplastic resin in a molten state, and thereby coating the fiber strand with thermoplastic resin;

pushing the resin coated fiber strand in a heated state into a barrel housing a rotatable screw simultaneously with the introduction of thermoplastic resin into the chamber and independently of the action of the screw; [[and]]

wherein the fiber strand is cut into predetermined lengths after being coated and prior to being directed into a barrel housing a rotatable screw.

14. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing fiber-reinforced resin for use in molding machines comprising:

passing a fiber strand through a chamber;

intermittently introducing into the chamber a thermoplastic resin in a molten state, and thereby coating the fiber strand with thermoplastic resin; and

pushing the resin coated fiber strand in a heated state into a fluidic conveying mechanism in conjunction with the introduction of thermoplastic resin into the chamber and independently of the action of the fluidic conveying mechanism; [[and]]

wherein the fiber strand is cut into predetermined lengths after being coated and prior to being directed into the fluidic conveying mechanism.